

## Health Services

### *Disease Control*

#### **State Register Document 4704, Proposed Amendment of R.61-22, The Evaluation of School Employees for Tuberculosis**

##### **Synopsis:**

The Department has conducted a review of Regulation 61-22 pertaining to the evaluation and screening for tuberculosis for those working in schools and child care centers. As a result of the review, the Department has substantially amended R.61-22 in order to simplify and clarify the tuberculosis screening and evaluation requirements for schools and child care centers and to significantly reduce the financial and human resources burden on schools and child care centers created in prior revisions to R. 61-22, all while affording children greater protection against exposure to tuberculosis in these settings. The amendments herein include the Department's effort to incorporate current tuberculosis evaluation and preventive treatment guidelines, update the screening and evaluation requirements for those working and volunteering in schools and child care centers, clarify language relating to the issuance of evaluation certificates, and provide for consistency with applicable state and federal laws. The title of the Regulation will also be revised.

Legislative review is required.

##### **Status:**

*The Department initiated the statutory process to amend R.61-22 by publication of a Notice of Drafting in the S.C. State Register on August 26, 2016; the drafting comment period closed September 26, 2016. On October 13, 2016 the DHEC Board approved staff's request to publicly notice the proposed revised regulation. A Notice of Proposed Regulation with notice of opportunity for public comment was published in the State Register as Document 4704 on October 28, 2016. After public hearing December 8, 2016, the DHEC Board found for the need and reasonableness of the proposed revised regulation and approved it for legislative review. The revised regulation was filed with the State Register Office December 14, 2016, was processed, verified, and submitted to the General Assembly for review January 10, 2017 and referred to the House and Senate reviewing committees. Pursuant to the request of Senate Medical Affairs Committee by letter dated January 30, 2017, the Department simultaneously withdrew and resubmitted a revised regulation on January 30, 2017 for legislative review. On February 7, 2017 the Senate Medical Affairs Committee introduced Joint Resolution S0374 to approve the revised regulation. The bill passed the Senate, was introduced and read first time in the House February 15, 2017 and referred to the House Committee on Regulations and Administrative Procedures. The Committee found favorable and S0374 passed the House the third time on April 20, 2017 and was enrolled for ratification. The legislative review period closes May 10, 2017. The revised regulation and legislative status can be viewed on the S.C. Legislature Online website at <http://www.scstatehouse.gov/regs/4704.docx>. For additional*

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